

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 ACDA-05 AEC-05 MC-01 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IO-04

EA-06 DRC-01 /081 W

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R 161440Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4555

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, IN, PK, US

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL SOURCES LABEL BHUTTO'S NEW YORK TIMES
INTERVIEW "NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL"

1. THE DELHI PRESS OCTOBER 16 REPORTED THAT "INFORMED SOURCES" USED THE TERM "NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL" TO DESCRIBE BHUTTO'S IMPLIED THREAT IN HIS NEW YORK TIMES INTERVIEW TO GO NUCLEAR IF THE US DOESN'T RESUME SHIPMENTS OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TO PAKISTAN. WE UNDERSTAND THE "INFORMED SOURCES" WAS THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS SPOKESMAN.

2. THE PRESS REPORTS VARIOUSLY DESCRIBE BHUTTO'S STATEMENTS AS A MEANS OF KEEPING UP PRESSURE ON THE US AND AS A SIGN OF HIS DESPERATION. THE STORIES RELATE BHUTTO'S "THREAT" TO THE IMMINENCE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO THE SUBCONTINENT. ONE POINTS OUT THAT THE INTERVIEW WAS PUBLISHED JUST BEFORE UNGA CONSIDERATION OF THE PAKISTANI PROPOSAL FOR A SOUTH ASIA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE. ANOTHER (THE PRO-MOSCOW PATRIOT) ADDS THAT IF BHUTTO IS REALLY AFRAID

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OF A NUCLEAR ATTACK, WHAT WILL HE DO WITH CONVENTIONAL ARMS?

3. SEPARATELY, THE PRESS REPORTS THAT MRS. GANDHI TOLD PARTY WORKERS IN DEHRU DUN OCTOBER 15 THAT PAKISTAN AND CHINA HAD "NO RIGHT TO SPEAK ABOUT INDO-SIKKIMESE RELATIONS IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT THEY DO IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES". SHE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO PAKISTANI ACTION IN "ANNEXING" HUNZA AND SWAT AND CHINESE ACTION IN TIBET, EMPHASIZING, HOWEVER, "I DO NOT SAY WHETHER THEY HAVE DONE RIGHT OR WRONG."
MOYNIHAN

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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